

Republican Valley Library System



VALLEYTALK

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We reserve the right to
edit or refuse
all contributions.

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Featured Library: Zion Lutheran School-Hastings

When I drew the name for the Featured Library article for February, I knew it would be an easy commute, as the **Zion Lutheran School** is less than a half mile from the office, but I was unsure about what was happening in their library/media center. We had Natasha Onnen as the name of the Media Specialist, but when I talked to her, she said I teach 3rd and 4th grade and coach, and really, **Sue Klein**, a volunteer, runs the library.



In my world of rules and order and degrees, I was a little taken back. A volunteer runs the library, and she is only at the school twice a month, on Tuesday afternoons. But when I decided to draw the featured library for the newsletter, I said no-throwbacks, so I called Sue and she said she would love to come to the office and be interviewed.

As we talked, I realized I was in a world of a different mind-set. It is a

world of volunteerism, and doing the best with what you have, and always it is a world of good works whether for the students or just those in need. I have long admired the Lutheran Church for maintaining their mission of help and service to the individual when other religions have gone off on political tangents that were against what I think a church should stand for. (Note: I am not a Lutheran and am not really a very churchy person)

Sue was a 6th grade teacher in a Lutheran School for 21 years in Riverside, CA. She has a sister, Lisa, with Down's syndrome who was cared for by their parents, but the parents became ill and could no-longer provide what Lisa needed. So Sue and her husband left California and came to Hastings to look after her sister and remember what Nebraska was like after 35 years away. (The weather is still lacking!!)

Zion Lutheran has 118 students with 7.5 teachers. They start in pre-school and go through the 8th grade. The library is open all the time, and yes, sometimes, the teachers just help themselves to the books when Sue is not in the building, but the library is getting used and things usually get returned. The library still has a card catalog, but the students really enjoy using it, and think it is a great feat when they can figure out how to look up a book and find it on the shelf. The school just had a fund raiser to purchase books. Students love non-fiction so Sue tries to provide them with lots of non-fiction, such as animals, how-to-draw, cars, and nature books.



On the opposite Tuesdays, when Sue is not there, the Adams County bookmobile from Hastings Public Library comes to the school and brings books for the students. This adds depth and variety to the Zion Lutheran School library and allows the students to request books which are available at the Hastings Public Library.

Zion Lutheran is a small school with caring parents who read to their children and encourage library usage, and as Sue says, a love of reading usually begins at home. Zion doesn't have to participate in No Child Left Behind and the state cannot dictate what they teach, but they also do not receive state funding so purchasing books is a luxury. Sue is on the Board of Directors for the Zion Lutheran School, and she knows "small is better" when it comes to schools. Sue is a vociferous reader. She utilizes Hastings Public Library's superb collection and devours 8 to 10 books every couple of weeks. Sue's simple rules for Zion Lutheran School Library are "libraries shouldn't have many rules and libraries should be fun". Maybe we would all do well incorporating those simple ideas into our philosophies of what a library should be.

Sherry Houston, System Director



Great Websites for Kids

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), has added more recommended Web sites to Great Web Sites for Kids (www.ala.org/greatsites), its online resource containing hundreds of links to commendable Web sites for children

The **newly added** sites are:

Activity TV - www.activitytv.com

Animal Fact Guide - www.animalfactguide.com

BaseballRox - www.baseballrox.com

The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art - www.carlemuseum.org

Chemicool - www.chemicool.com

Dawn - <http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/DawnKids/index.asp>

Mem Fox: Teaching, Learning, Living - www.memfox.com

Kevin Henkes - www.kevinhenkes.com

Horizon Magic Porthole - www.magicporthole.org

KidsClick! Web search for kids by librarians - www.kidsclick.org

Maisy's Fun Club - www.maisyfunclub.com

School Time Games - www.schooltimegames.com

Jon Scieszka Worldwide - www.jsworldwide.com

Charles R. Smith, Jr. - www.charlesrsmithjr.com

Speakaboos - www.speakaboos.com

Tate Kids - <http://kids.tate.org.uk/>

The Audrey Wood Clubhouse - www.audreywood.com



Wii Console and Games available at RVLS

- Super Mario Galaxy
- Okami
- Mariokart
- Wii Sports (baseball, bowling, boxing, golf, tennis)
- Pinball Hall of Fame
- Mario & Sonic at the Olympic Games



RVLS NEWS

Youth Grants for Excellence Awarded

- **Fairfield Public Library** “Books for Young Adults” was awarded \$250
- **Hastings Public Library** “Dia de los Ninos, Dia de los Libros” was awarded \$3,330.

Hastings College Perkins Library invited “final-weary” students to take a break from studying by decorating and devouring gingerbread cookies. Director Bob Nedderman and his wife Sue baked 100 gingerbread cookies for the event, which was held Monday, December 15.



Students creatively decorated the cookies as male-and-female hula dancers, Adam and Eve (complete with leaves) and a gingerbread skeleton, among other designs.



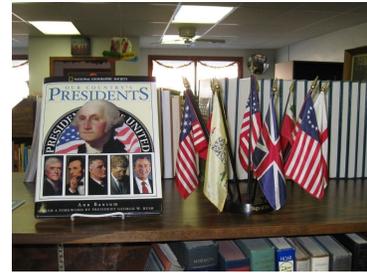
Valley Visits

When RVLS Librarians were together in December about the Gates Grant, we had such a great library visit and learning experience, we decided to try again. So in February, we will meet again. There will be no charge, and it will be very informal. The topic will be NebraskaKard and any other library thing we want to talk about. If you plan to come, please e-mail or call so we can get a food count.

On Feb. 25, 2009, we will meet at the **McCook Public Library**. Patty Hall is providing lunch. We will meet at 11:00 am. Hope to see you there. No charge! 1.5 hours of CE!

On Feb. 27, 2009, we will meet at the **RVLS office** meeting room. We will meet at 10:00, and try to be done by 11:30. No lunch but coffee and donuts. (Maybe, I'll have the chef from CCC make something delectable!) No charge! 1.5 hours of CE.

Hastings Public Library announces a new director. **Amy Greenland** assumed the position as Director on January 12, 2009. **Pam Bohmfalk** had been interim director since **Linda Rea** retired last October. Welcome, Amy and we wish you well.



This great President's Day display was set up at **Indianola Public Library**. Just makes you want to read about our great leaders of the past, doesn't it?

What's Up Doc is a Blog

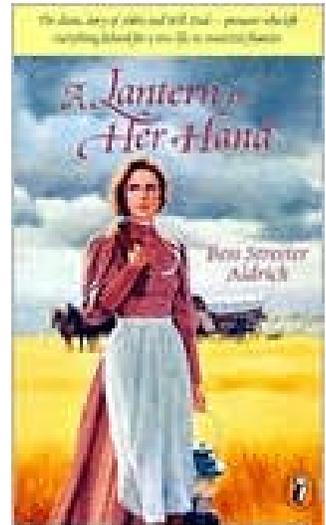
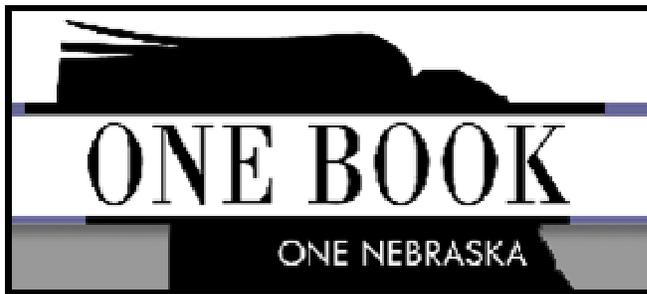
Times change, new technologies come along, and we use them to (hopefully) improve our services. *What's up Doc?*, our bimonthly newsletter listing state and federal publications received at the Library Commission, has gone 2.0! Sometimes doing something new means stopping doing something the old way. The print *What's Up Doc* will cease publication with the November/December 2008 issue. The 2008 annual compilation of state documents will also be published soon. A new *What's Up Doc* was launched as a blog in September 2008, and is accessible at <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/whatsupdoc>. The new *Doc* features all of the information provided in the old *Doc*, and more. Blog format allows us to post lists of newly received publications, make announcements about state e-pubs that we have downloaded to our server, and blog about “documents in the news” more frequently than was possible with the bimonthly compilation. The publications lists include OCLC catalog numbers and hotlinks to downloaded copies of documents that any library can use to add them to their catalogs.

Doc is also broadening in scope to feature updates about other projects documents staff are involved with: Nebraska Memories, collaborative digitization projects, scanning materials from the NLC Archives, information services, etc.

We welcome feedback and comments about the new *What's Up Doc*—pros and cons of making the change, need for future annual state docs compilations, comments on news postings, etc. Would you like to write a news article for us to post? How about using the blog to comment! Or contact Beth Goble, Government Information Services Director 402-471-4017 email bgoble@nlc.state.ne.us.

To sign up for *What's Up Doc* via RSS go to the site and click on the RSS link .





One Book One Nebraska 2009 invites citizens across the state to read *A Lantern in Her Hand*, by Nebraska author Bess Streeter Aldrich. The Nebraska Center for the Book board selected *A Lantern in Her Hand*, a classic story of a pioneer woman who withstands the adversity of existence on the prairie to triumph in the joy of everyday life. Libraries across Nebraska are encouraged to join other literary and cultural organizations in planning for 2009 activities and events that will encourage Nebraskans to read and discuss this story. Support materials to assist with reading/discussion activities will be distributed in early 2009. See the Library Commission Blog, http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/NLC/books_reading for an ongoing discussion of library tools and programming ideas for One Book One Nebraska 2009.

One Book One Nebraska 2009 is sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Humanities Council, Nebraska Library Association, Nebraska Library Commission, and the University of Nebraska Press. This year the reading celebration is hosted by the Bess Streeter Aldrich Foundation, www.bessstreeteraldrich.org. The Foundation will sponsor activities throughout the year to help highlight One Book One Nebraska, including:

- Short Story Contest (<http://www.bessstreeteraldrich.org/contest.html>) for Nebraska authors (Adult, High School, and Middle School). Prizes will be awarded for original stories to winners in each age category. Deadline for submissions: February 17, 2009, Bess Streeter Aldrich's birthday.
- February 15, 2009: Bess Streeter Aldrich Birthday Celebration and Open House at the Bess Streeter Aldrich House, 204 East F Street, Elmwood, Nebraska to kick-off the yearlong celebration of **One Book One Nebraska 2009: Nebraska Reads *A Lantern in Her Hand***.
- April 18, 2009: Bess Streeter Aldrich Foundation Spring Banquet will feature Carol Miles Petersen's presentation of Bess Streeter Aldrich's story behind *A Lantern in Her Hand*. The winners of the Aldrich short story contest will be honored at the banquet.
- A Summer Outdoor Event will highlight the beauty of the yard and garden of the historic Aldrich home.
- Bess Streeter Aldrich Remembrance Day will be held in the fall. This day will be dedicated to celebrating the author's life.
- The Journey into Christmas holiday event closes the year's activities, with the Aldrich House decorated for the holidays and open every Saturday and Sunday in December.

Additional resources for **One Book One Nebraska 2009: Nebraska Reads *A Lantern in Her Hand*** are in development and will be available January 1, 2009, including:

- Book Club Kit, with discussion questions, book bags and books (courtesy University of Nebraska Press) for libraries to borrow, and suggested resources.
- Website, as part of the Bess Streeter Aldrich Foundation site, www.bessstreeteraldrich.org, and linked from <http://www.onebookonenebraska.org/>.

It's Your Move

WORKSHOP DATES

- Feb. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 2009
Fifty Plus: Getting Ready to Hand Over the Reins and Supervising Friends and Former Peers at Wahoo, Norfolk, Beatrice, Lexington and Scottsbluff (see insert)
- Mar. 13, 2009 Summer Reading Program in Elwood, NE –Be Creative @ your Library (see insert)
- June 5, 2009 RVLS Annual Meeting

Teen Tech Week is March 8-14th.

The theme is Press Play@your library. The week is about connecting teens with different technologies, especially those available through the library. For more information see: <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw09/home.cfm>

The **Nebraska Library Commission** has again funded a statewide license for **public viewing of motion pictures in Nebraska public libraries**. With this license, through



Movie Licensing USA, Inc., motion pictures may be shown as part of library services and programming at the library through **September 30, 2009**. For more information, contact [Sally Snyder](#), Nebraska Library Commission's Coordinator of Children and Young Adult Library Services, 402-471-4003 or 800-307-2665.

ALA Annual Conference is in Chicago July 9-14th To make your transportation both fun and reasonably priced, join the 5th Annual Road Trip on the Bus. See page 4 of December's Valleytalk. Please register as soon as possible, signup deadline is June 19, 2009

Advocating in a Tough Economy

A new web-based resource has just been released that will help library advocates make the case for libraries during times of economic downturn.

The "Advocating in a Tough Economy" toolkit is available at www.ala.org/tougheconomytoolkit.

National Library Week is April 12-18, 2009. National Library Week is an annual celebration of the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians. The theme is **Worlds Connect @ your library**. For information online: <http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/hqops/pio/natlibraryweek/nlw.cfm>

Be A Reader

Have you read any good books lately? Any that you think should be considered for the Golden Sower Award nominee lists? Then be sure to send the information in for the Golden Sower reading lists soon!

Be sure to include:

- Author
- Title
- Illustrator (if there is one)
- Publisher
- Copyright date
- ISBN
- what state the author and/or illustrator lives in.

All of this information is very important! Remember, the author and/or illustrator **MUST** live in the United States! Also, the copyright date must be 2007, 2008 or 2009!

Titles for the Primary and Intermediate reading lists should be sent to Shawna Lindner: slindner@kearneygov.org

Titles for the Young Adult reading list should be sent to Toni Reese: treese@monarch.papillion.ne.us

Also, if you are interested in being a reader and helping to pick the final nominees, send a message to these people--they would love to have you volunteer to read!



On the Bookshelf



The following items have been recently added to the RVLs Professional Collection:

New Professional Collection DVD's (College of DuPage)

- *Library Challenges & Opportunities—Information Literacy for Life*
- *Library Challenges & Opportunities—Library Spaces: Future Need*
- *Soaring to Excellence—Reversing the Ratchet: Basic Technology Adoption Strategies for Library Workers*
- *Soaring to Excellence—Trends, Fads or Folly: Spotting the Library Trends That Really Matter*
- *Soaring to Excellence— Mapping the Library Landscape-Finding the Trends that Matter*

A complete listing of our Professional Collection is on our web page nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican under Services

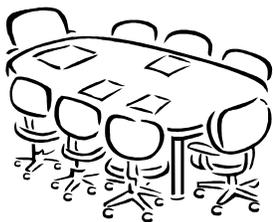
Ellison On the Move

Here's the schedule for the Ellison, if you want on the schedule please contact us, or if it is near you, perhaps you could work out something with your neighbor.

January 15, 2009: Sutton Public Schools

February 17, 2009: Central Community College—Sherrie Dux-ideus

March 15, 2009: Wallace Public School—Deb Jameson



2008-2009 RVLs Board Meetings

President -Judy Grandstaff

Vice-President -Patty Hall

Secretary -Suzann Christensen

Members: Tony Anderson

Pat Bonge Vicki Casper

Laura Cundiff Beth Falla

Jane Hilton Terri Johnson

Sylvia Person Nancy Sherwood

All meetings begin at 10 am.

Your attendance is encouraged and welcomed!

**Friday, March 6, 2009—Butler Memorial Library,
Cambridge**

**Friday, June 5, 2009—Annual Meeting,
Burchell Whitehill Farmhouse Inn,
Minden, NE**

Booksets Available from RVLS

Title	Author	# Copies	Grade Level	Audio-Book
The Book Thief (with study guide)	Marcus Zusack	20	9th—Adult	Yes
City of Ember	Jeanne DuPrau	20	5th—8th	Yes
Cracker!: The Best Dog in Vietnam	Cynthia Kadohata	20	5th—8th	No
Crazy Horse	Mari Sandoz	18	Adult	No
Eagle Blue	Michael D'orso	20	10th—Adult	No
Elijah of Buxton (with study guide)	Christopher Paul Curtis	20	3rd—7th	Yes
Escape:The Story of the Great Houdini	Sid Fleischman	20	4th—8th	Yes
Esperanza Rising (with study guide)	Pam Munoz Ryan	20	4th—9th	Yes
Green Glass Sea (with study guide)	Ellen Klages	15	5th—8th	No
Hattie Big Sky (with study guide)	Kirby Larson	20	7th—12th	Yes
Heat	Mike Lupica	20	4th—7th	Yes
Holes (with study guide)	Louis Sachar	20	5th—9th	Yes
Jazz	Walter Dean Myers	20	5th—9th	Yes
My Dog May Be a Genius (poetry)	Jack Prelutsky	20	K—5th	No
One False Move	Alex Kava	12	Adult	No
Re-Gifters (graphic novel)	Mike Carey	16	7th—12th	No
Rescue Josh McGuire	Ben Mikaelson	15	4th-6th	No
Restoring the Burnt Child	William Kloefkorn	10	Adult	Yes
Rules (with study guide)	Cynthia Lord	20	4th—6th	No
Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie	David Lubar	20	7th—12th	Yes
Stranded	Ben Mikaelson	20	4th—6th	No
Touching Spirit Bear	Ben Mikaelson	17	5th—8th	No

These booksets are available for use by any school or public library. The usual lending time is six weeks. If you would like to reserve any one of them for use now or at a future time, please contact the RVLS office by phone, (402) 462-1975 or Kay at rvisasst@inebraska.com or Sherry at rvisadmin@inebraska.com.

RVLS Calendar

FEBRUARY

- 5—Theresa Dickson’s presentation in Lexington
- 10—Library Legislative Day
- 11-18 N Compass on-line
- 25-Valley Visits at McCook Library—see page 3
- 26—Annual Reading Conference, Kearney
- 27—Valley Visits at RVLS Office—see page 3

MARCH

- 2—Dr. Seuss’s Birthday
- 6—RVLS Board Meeting, Butler Memorial Library, Cambridge
- 8-14—Teen Tech Week
- 13—Summer Reading Program, Elwood, NE

APRIL

- 1-3 MPLA in Wichita, Ks. Keynote presenter, Will Manley
- 12-18 National Library Week (see *It’s Your Move*, page 5)
- 15—Vote for Golden Sower Award
- 30—El Dia de los Ninos/El dia de los Libros

MAY

- 11-17—2009 Children’s Book Week

JUNE

- 5- Annual Meeting Burchell’s White Hill Farmhouse Inn north of Minden

JULY

- 9-15 ALA in Chicago
- 19-24 Leadership Institute 2009



RVLS Has Scholarship Money Available

Up to \$100.00 per event for registration, mileage, meal, etc.

Only one scholarship per person per fiscal year

All member libraries eligible

Name _____

Library _____

Event _____

Date of event _____

Scholarship requested for _____(meal, room, etc.)

Amount requested _____

Other information:



Send to: Republican Valley Library System
 2727 W. 2nd # 233
 Hastings, NE 68901

Republican Valley Library System Board Meeting
10:00 a.m. January 9, 2009
Superior Public Library 449 North Kansas Superior, NE 68978

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tony Anderson, Pat Bonge, Vicki Casper, Suzann Christensen, Laura Cundiff, Judy Grandstaff, Patty Hall, Jane Hilton, Terri Johnson, Nancy Sherwood

ABSENT: Beth Falla, Sylvia Person

OTHERS PRESENT: Sherry Houston (System Director), Richard Miller (Nebraska Library Commission), Peggy Lipker (Superior Public Library), Vicki Perrie (Superior Public Library)

PRIOR TO MEETING: The board wishes to thank Vicki Perrie and the Superior Public Library for hosting the meeting and providing wonderful refreshments (sour cream applesauce coffeecake). Discussion was held regarding the caravan of vehicles into Superior, which Richard Miller termed semi-sexist girl talk.

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL: President Judy Grandstaff called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. It was determined that Richard Miller is no longer a guest but rather an "old shoe" (again, his words). Roll call was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes for the November 7, 2008 meeting will stand approved as read.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Updated financial reports were distributed and explained. We are in great shape financially at this point. Sherry plans to purchase additional audio books. The financial reports were filed for audit.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you messages were shared with the group.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: *[A detailed copy of the administrator's report is in each board member's packet.]* Sherry completed and filed the 471 form. She is continuing to update the RVLS web site and is working on adding study questions to each of the book sets.

[At this point, Vicki Perrie shared lunch options with the group and asked them to make a decision. This turned into a rather drawn-out, yet entertaining, process, with Vicki making multiple phone calls to the restaurant and asking board members to revise their choices.]

Sherry took the InFocus data projector to Business Media, a certified repair center in Lincoln. They think the problem is a corroded power supply and repair costs will be \$150 - \$250. Sherry will have it repaired.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Online (Open Source) Catalog: Lincoln Public Library is spearheading and will house records for the Open Source pilot project. Participating libraries are Lincoln, Omaha, Gretna, Nebraska City, Grand Island, Holdrege and St. Paul. Lincoln and Omaha Public Libraries' holdings will be put online so other libraries' holdings can be attached. Pros and cons of Open Source were shared. Discussion was also held regarding Follett and its focus on public schools.

Library Legislative Day: Flyers were distributed and information was shared. RVLS will again pay for our districts' senators' lunches. READ posters with senators' pictures are taken at the event. Judy encouraged libraries to submit volunteers' names for recognition.

New One Book for NE Youth and One Book One State: Selections are **Green Glass Sea** by Ellen Klages and **Lantern in Her Hand** by Bess Streeter Aldrich. RVLS has a book set with 15 copies of **Green Glass Sea** and NLC's web site has related activities posted. The six library systems are compiling a list of book sets so that any library may borrow them. Systems will pay postage to ship the sets and borrowing libraries will pay to return them. Judy led a discussion regarding School Library Journal's article entitled "Has the Newbery Lost Its Way?"

RVLS Committee Assignments: Sylvia Person will replace Jane Hilton on Planning/Executive/Budget Committee. Beth Falla will replace Patty Hall on Continuing Education/Scholarships/Grants Committee.

Report from Scholarship Committee: Terri Johnson explained the guidelines under which the committee operates. An applicant may apply for a maximum of \$100 per fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) and if limits are necessary, one applicant per library will be allowed. To date, limiting has not been necessary. Board members and trustees are encouraged to apply. Promotion for scholarships is done via e-mails, newsletters, and word of mouth. 2009 NLA/NEMA will be held at the Embassy Suites in LaVista, which will be a good opportunity for scholarship application.

RVLS Board Meeting—Jan 9, 2009—continued from page 9

NEW BUSINESS

Workshops/locations and dates *[Completed flyers for each of the workshops will be included in the newsletter]*

Summer Reading: The workshop will be held March 13 in Elwood at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. A rough draft flyer was distributed. Laura Cundiff shared a Be Creative book kit, which contains written ideas, games, music, books, a DVD, craft ideas and activity books.

Computer Workshops: Flyers were shared for Scott Childers's Technology Workshop on January 16 and for Michael Sauers's Computer Workshops on May 5 – 8. Discussion was held about the difficulty of the web-training workshop. Richard will share that information with Michael. We asked about the possibility of a future Plinkit workshop.

Annual Meeting: The annual meeting will be held north of Minden at Burchell's White Hill Farmhouse Inn on June 5 (maps will be provided for those who are directionally challenged). In addition to our board meeting and annual meeting, a Nebraska Humanities Council speaker will provide a biographical talk about Bess Streeter Aldrich.

Conventions: A flyer was shared highlighting the bus trip to ALA/Chicago from June 9 - 14. Sherry will fax in all requests on January 15 so that bus riders (hopefully) will be housed in the same hotel. MPLA will be held in Wichita on April 1 – 3. Sherry will drive the system vehicle and would love some passengers to accompany her. One of the featured speakers is Will Manley. The Leadership Institute will be held July 20 – 24 at the St. Benedict Center in Schuyler.

BookPage Subscriptions: RVLS ordered 100 copies. Sherry and Kay has worked out postage costs/delivery details with participating libraries.

Report from NLC Quarterly Meeting (Sherry Houston)

College of DuPage: Buffering problems are causing the live feed quality to be poor in some locations. Libraries may wish to borrow DVDs of the feeds and watch them that way. Any CE forms must be turned in within 90 days.

April Basic Skills Classes: The topics will be public service and reference.

OCLC: Due to changes in OCLC's network structure, NEBASE support, billing and training activities will conclude June 30, 2009. There should be no disruption of service from OCLC.

Bibliostat Presentation: John Felton and Kathryn Brockmeier presented information about Bibliostat. Submissions are due by March 31. *[Two libraries represented at the board meeting have already submitted their information. These persons received boos and catcalls from other board members.]* Richard explained how the Commission uses the statistics. Statistical stories were shared (I *think* in jest) causing Richard to exclaim, "I don't want to hear this stuff!"

NLC Representative Report: Richard highlighted portions of his buff colored handout. *[Thank you, Richard, for sharing!]*

Topics included on the handout: Nebraska Learns 2.0, **A Lantern In Her Hand**, Central Community College and the LTA Program, Youth Grants for Excellence, New Cataloger at the Commission, New Special Projects Associate/Research Analyst, Library Improvement Grants, NCompass Live, What's Up Doc?, Gates Grants, One Book for Nebraska Kids, Video List Updated, Nebraska State Historical Society Renovation, Books Honored by Nebraska Center for the Book, and NLA Legislative Day – Tuesday, February 10, 2009.

Richard has assumed additional job responsibilities and was complimented by board members for exceptional customer service.

Miscellaneous

RVLS tote bags

DVD collection discussion/Judy (<http://www.oldies.com>)

NEXT BOARD MEETING: The next meeting will be held Friday, March 6, 2009, at the Butler Memorial Library in Cambridge.

Meeting adjourned, 11:59 a.m.

Suzann Christensen, Recording Secretary



We are Looking for RVLS Board Members



Would you like to be a member of the Republican Valley Library System Board, or do you know someone in your community who has interest in libraries and would like to be a member of the RVLS Board?

We meet 5 times a year for approximately 2 hours at different sites around RVLS. A term is three years, and you could serve for two terms. We pay mileage for your travels, and we always have coffee and rolls. If you or someone you know, who lives within RVLS would like to be on our ballot, please submit your nomination by **May 1, 2009** to:

RVLS Board President
Judy Grandstaff
Blue Hill Public Library
P O Box 278
Blue Hill NE 68930
Phone: 402-756-2701
e-mail: phpublibr@gtmc.net

OR

RVLS Administrator
Sherry Houston
Republican Valley Library System
2727 West 2nd St, Suite #233
Hastings, NE 68901
Phone: 402-462-1975
e-mail: rvlsadmin@inebraska.com

The elections will be held at the annual meeting scheduled for June 5, 2009.

I am submitting the following name in nomination for a position on the Republican Valley Library System Board (You may nominate yourself):

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ (Work) _____ (Home)

Library affiliation: _____ (Trustee, Patron, Library employee)

Contributions that can be made to the board by this nominee: _____

Name of person making the nomination: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ (Work) _____ (Home)

____ Yes, I have contacted this person, and he/she is willing to serve on the RVLS Board.



Library Resolutions for 2009



Here are some resolutions for 2009 to start your year off with a bang!

Attend Library Legislative Day on Feb. 10th at the Cornhusker in Lincoln. Senators love to meet the librarians from their districts and the food is always great (the weather is sometimes questionable). <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/2009%20Legislative%20Registration.pdf>

If you are a Public Library, **file your Statistical Report** by March 31. Even if you think you won't be accredited, you get Dollars for Data just for filling out the form. Call RVLS if you have lost your password. <http://collect.btol.com>

Check out the Wii from the RVLS office. A list of games is on the RVLS website and in this newsletter (page 2). It is a fun and easy program to have with youth, seniors, or families. <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/NintendoWii.pdf>

Check out a bookset from RVLS. There are sets of poetry, biography, fiction and one set is even a graphic novel to let young adults have a taste of a different style of reading --and the librarian or teacher too! The new One Book for Nebraska Youth is *Green Glass Sea* by Ellen Klages. <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/services.html>

Attend a workshop this year. See the RVLS website for a list of workshops: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/print.html>

February 2-6 is the Teresa Dickinson workshop around the state <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/flyers/dickson%20workshop.pdf>

March 13th is Summer Reading Program (see registration flyer in this newsletter)

May 5-8 is a week of Technology in North Platte with Michael Sauers, (See Insert)

June 5th is the RVLS Annual meeting at Burchell's Whitehill Farmhouse Inn in Minden.

Attend a conference. MPLA will be in Wichita on April 1-3. It is always a great conference and not big and overwhelming. To register and see the conference schedule: <http://www.kansaslibraryassociation.org/displayconvention.cfm>

The Regional Library Systems are sponsoring a bus to ALA in Chicago on July 9-14th.

The bus will cost you \$35.00 and you have to pay for registration and lodging, but ALA is a great time. <http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>

The NLA/NEMA conference will be October 28-30 at Embassy Suites in LaVista (right off the interstate) so you can try a smaller venue if you would rather and it is always fun.

Try an on-line course. Nebraska Library Commission is offering a series of On-line activities on NCompass Live <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/NCompass/NCompassLive.asp> They start in January and continue through February. For a list of other on-line activities from NLC go to <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/NLC/>

Best Books and Summer Reading Program Handouts Now Available

Handouts prepared by Sally Snyder for her two presentations at the NLA/NEMA Conference are now available, with brief descriptions, in digital format. You are welcome to download and/or print them as needed.

Be Creative @ your library™ is the handout for the session on the 2009 summer reading program.

Go to: http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/summerreading/2009bcyl_handoutfromNLAsession.pdf
http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/summerreading/2009bcyl_handoutfromNLAsession.doc

Best New Books of 2008 is the handout for the session on the new books for Preschool - Young Adult ages.

Go to: http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/SummerReading/BB2008bestbooks_handoutfromNLAsession.pdf
http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/SummerReading/BB2008bestbooks_handoutfromNLAsession.doc

For more **2009 Summer Reading Program links** <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/SummerReading/srp.html>

Nebraska Library Association Scholarship Opportunities

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org>

Would you like to attend graduate classes or training to increase your library skills? Here's your opportunity to apply for financial assistance.

These links include information on the Louise A. Nixon Scholarship (\$1,000.00) and the Duane Munson Scholarship (\$250.00).

Louise A. Nixon Scholarship

Louise A. Nixon (1897-1989) worked constantly to enlighten the legislature about Nebraska's libraries' needs. She served as Assistant Director of the Nebraska Legislative Reference Bureau and as Legislative Council Librarian. Louise Nixon was head of the Nebraska Library Commission from 1950 to 1969. When federal funds were made available, she initiated bookmobile demonstration projects; public library construction; extension services; services to institutional residents and the physically challenged; and an inter-library communication network. Our lives have been enriched by her open-minded, conscientious dedication to building library service in this state. When Nixon reflected on her life for the Lincoln Journal, the paper wrote, "There is no single figure of greater 20th century significance in developing Nebraska's contemporary system of community libraries – facilities, collections, trained personnel, cooperative networking." This scholarship was established to help each recipient reach for Nixon's goals of dedication and vision. **The application deadline is April 15th of the current year. Scholarship recipients will be announced in May.**

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/nixonschol.htm>

Duane Munson Scholarship

Duane Munson, a well-known bookseller from Columbus, has been a long-time leader and solid supporter of library and educational activity in Nebraska. He desires to share his good fortune jointly with the NLA and NEMA communities. Munson has personally sponsored this scholarship since 1991.

The application deadline is April 15th of the current year. Scholarship recipients will be announced in May.

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/munsonschol.htm>

Library Boards:

Create discussion, earn CE credits, create conversation, empower the library

Many Nebraska librarians, staff, boards and others participated in either the Nebraska Libraries Future Search conference, or in focus groups for the conference. We certainly want to keep the conversation going and provide follow-up information on some of the ideas that have come out of that conference. So, the Nebraska Regional Library Systems will share a topic bi-monthly based on 12 Vision Statements from that 2008 conference. If you want to use these for conversations with library boards, friends, or your community that would be a way to ensure the discussion continues. Nebraska Library Commission will provide continuing education credits including for library trustees if you put it on the agenda and discuss during a board meeting. A series of questions and activities to choose from in helping initiate the conversation are listed below the vision statement. We suggest choosing at least two questions and two activities, however you can choose as many, or all – and utilize throughout 2009, as a way of continuing the Nebraska Libraries Future Search discussion.

Vision statement to consider: ***The library is a vital hub, woven into the fabric of the greater community, responding to and empowering people through local and global connections.***

Questions:

- Talk about ways your library is a hub within the community, or services that might reflect the library's involvement in the community as a whole locally and beyond.
- Let's say a newspaper wants to do a story on the library and the role it plays in the community, what would you list? Provide examples of how library services impact library customers in their day to day lives. Talk about connections made locally, regionally, statewide and internationally.
- List community and customer needs that are prevalent today. Are there ways library services can assist in responding to those, or perhaps are already responding to?

Library websites are one way of providing access to library services and information around the clock. Two of many are Holdrege Public Library at www.holdregelibrary.com, or Bennington Public Library at <http://library.bennington-ne.com/> where the possibility to chat or blog is available anytime. Libraries are also investigating the use of kiosks, or mall locations where the library is placed where people tend to congregate. Connecting the library to customers with particular needs such as ESL or finding a job, and partnering with organizations like a literacy council or Nebraska Workforce are examples of services provided as a direct response to a particular need while collaborating to make the most of community wide resources. List outreach services your library provides, or might consider developing, or partnerships with other organizations that reinforce the library as THE community center – the place that will “connect” individuals with product in response to customer need or desire, within or outside the walls of the library during the hours the library is open or closed.

Activities:

- Nebraska libraries include the Library Bill of Rights as part of policy which lists service to all people of the community not restricting access based on origin, age, background or views. Review the Library Bill of Rights at: <http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/statementspols/statementsif/librarybillrights.cfm>.
- Veronda Pitchford, of the Urban Libraries Council, was the speaker at the Fall Colloquium October 2008. Their publication: *Welcome, Stranger: Public Libraries Build the Global Village* is a great resource for libraries of all types for strategies in welcoming and helping immigrants in transitions into the community. It also provides information on the major role libraries provide in this process. You can find copies of this publication to borrow, 17 pages, as well as the 25 page toolkit at the Nebraska Regional Library Systems' offices and the Nebraska Library Commission, or on the Urban Libraries Council website: <http://www.urbanlibraries.org/publications/print.html>. Review and discuss for insight in successfully serving a growing constituent in Nebraska.
 - Nebraska Regional Library Systems and Nebraska Library Commission have copies of Kathleen de la Pena McCook's book: *A Place at the Table: Participating in Community Building*. It outlines methods for ensuring that librarians are a part of community discussions, planning and problem solving with tools for strengthening community partnerships and connections while promoting the library's assets. Use the book to begin discussion for building community

collaboration and empowerment through library services and involvement. Or take a look online at McCook's – A Librarian At the Kitchen Table - <http://www.urbanlibraries.org/publications/print.html>. The blog provides great articles for discussion and consideration, as well as timely information on libraries building community in a variety of settings.

Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community by Robert D. Putnam was a national bestseller and provided provocative ideas on social change focusing on American behavior increasingly disconnecting from each other and social structures. Listen to an interview with Professor Putnam on NPR's All Things Considered: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=1074874>. Listen as a group and use for discussion. What do you agree or disagree with? This program and book were published in 2000, how are things different or the same in 2009? For more information on the book or Putnam go to: <http://www.bowlingalone.com/>.

Please feel free to share your comments and feedback from these discussions and exercises. Nebraska Regional Library Systems will be posting bi-monthly discussions on system e-mail lists, newsletters and websites. We are also exploring ways of presenting the discussion in an interactive online format that could involve statewide participation. There is a Nebraska Libraries Future Search wiki hosted by Nebraska Library Commission where we can post discussion information and feedback: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/Whats%20Next.ashx>. 

One Book One Nebraska 2009: *A Lantern in Her Hand* - Continued from pg. 4

- Press kit, including news release, downloadable poster, Governor's Proclamation, and other materials.
- Access to special library-discount pricing on books from University of Nebraska Press at <http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/pages/OneBookOneNebraska.aspx>
- Support for programming from the Nebraska Humanities Council (NHC), including:
 - * Carol Miles Petersen is available through the NHC Speakers Bureau for her program, "Bess Streeter Aldrich: Biography." This talk by Petersen is not a living history or Chautauqua-style presentation. See the NHC website, www.nebraskahumanities.org/speakers/speakerscat.html.
 - * Other Speakers Bureau programs are available on pioneer life and the westward migration. Some of these are Chautauqua-style.
 - * **A Video History of Bess Streeter Aldrich.** Biography of native-Nebraska author Bess Streeter Aldrich. NHC videos are housed at the Nebraska Library Commission. To order videos directly from the Library Commission Reference Services, contact ready@nlc.state.ne.us, 402-471-4019, 800-307-2665.
 - * Libraries, schools, and nonprofit organizations are welcome to apply for NHC mini and major grants to help support local **One Book One Nebraska 2009** programming at <http://www.nebraskahumanities.org/speakers/hrceligibility.html>.

She will be the featured speaker at RVLS Annual Meeting on June 5th





Serving Counties:

- Adams
- Chase
- Clay
- Dundy
- Franklin
- Frontier
- Furnas
- Gosper
- Harlan
- Hayes
- Hitchcock
- Kearney
- Lincoln
- Logan
- McPherson
- Nuckolls
- Perkins
- Phelps
- Red Willow
- Webster

**“There’s nothing to
match curling up
with a good book
when there’s a re-
pair job to be done
around the house.”**
Joe Ryan

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